



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 1761

In re

Patent Application of

Edward Thornton, et al.

Application No. 09/935,520

Confirmation No. 9109

Filed: August 23, 2001

Examiner: Drew E. Becker

"TUBMLER FOR MARINATING FOOD  
PRODUCTS"

I, Kelly F Roberts, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

  
Signature

December 20, 2005  
Date of Signature

**COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF  
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(e)**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

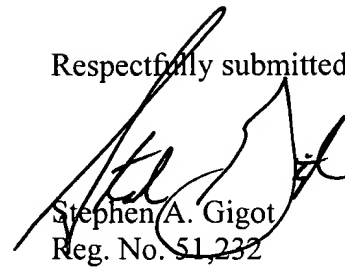
This communication is in response to the Examiner's Statements of Reasons for Allowance set forth in the Notice of Allowance dated September 21, 2005.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has identified only a few of the separate and independent reasons for allowance of independent Claims 1 and 24 and, therefore, for allowance of dependent Claims 2-5, 7-10, 14, 15, 25, 26, and 32-45.

Applicants also respectfully submit that Claims 2-5, 7-10, 14, 15, 25, 26, and 32-45 are allowable for additional separate and independent reasons. The independent claims (Claims 1 and 24) include additional patentable features and/or combinations of features not mentioned by the Examiner. Similarly, the dependent claims (Claims 2-5, 7-10, 14, 15, 25, 26, and 32-45)

include additional patentable features and/or combinations of features not mentioned by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen A. Gigot  
Reg. No. 51,232

File No. 022116-9002-01  
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP  
100 E. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 271-6560